

North Gresham Neighborhood Association
October 3, 2016
Round Table Pizza
6:00 pm

Attending: Gelinda Chernault, Linda Parashos, Kathye Partridge, Jennifer Eaves, Barclay Moore, Diane Elkins John Walpole, Pat and Jan Eck, Sarah Stone, Loren & Donn Strode, Denise Guyette, Eric Schmidt, Bob & Ianie Wirth, Donna Cage, Linda Van Deusen-Price, Darcey Vincent, William Mengis, Jim & Louise Masog, Curtis Roberts

The minutes of the April 4, 2016 meeting were reviewed and it was moved and seconded that they be accepted as written.

Gelinda welcomed all neighbors and presentors and opened the meeting to the first presenter,

Curtis Roberts, Public Vector Specialist from Multnomah County Vector Control. He presented information about the types of rats that have been found in the Northwest and how they nest and feed. He discussed the number of calls that he goes out on and that in our area there have only been about 5 complaints and that 4 of them resulted in evidence of rat activity. When asked about how to control rats and deal with the neighbors who feed birds and squirrels and have open compost piles. Chris suggested that you talk to your neighbor about their feeding attracting rats. If you have any problems with rats or our neighbors feeding, you can call Vector Control and they will come out and access the problem and offer suggestions. They will provide free traps if they can find evidence of rat activity.

Pat Eck – Measure 97 information and Q&A. Mr Eck went through information about what Measure 97 would be able to do for school funding, senior citizen assistance and healthcare concerns. He encouraged everyone to find out more about the Measure and then to be sure to vote – whether you agree with the Measure or not.

Q&A He was asked about how to guarantee that the money is spent where we would like to see it spent since that language is not part of the Measure. He assured everyone that it is our job to keep our politicians honest and doing the job that we have elected them to do. There was discussion about prior taxes that were passed but never spent where they were intended. Mr Eck and his wife again asked everyone to vote on this issue and others.

Eric Schmidt – City of Gresham information about Measure 26-188 Mr Schmidt passed out information about the proposed bond issue for the building of a Recreation Center in Gresham. He discussed the creation of the neighborhood group to investigate what the people of Gresham want and a Rec Center came out as the item that was most requested.

Q&A – Eric assured us that he was not able to campaign for the Measure but did answer questions regarding whether the land had been selected for the site – not yet. He reiterated that it would be located as close to downtown as possible to make it easy for the citizens of Gresham to make use of it. A third party vendor would be hired to administer the operation of the center with special attention given to keeping the costs down so that all citizens of Gresham could afford to attend events and make use of the facilities.

NGNA bank account-

Discussion was held about adding another Board member to the bank account to make paying bills easier. The Secretary/Treasurer now has the only access to the bank account.

There were questions about where the money comes from – grant from the city of Gresham to help pay for National Night Out and other events that are useful to the neighborhood. In our case it pays for NNO and the neighborhood cleanup costs for dumping garbage.

It was moved and seconded that another Board member be added to the account. The vote was unanimous to add another Board member to the bank account.

Recommendations for alternate meeting site

Gelinda started discussion about an alternate site for NGNA meetings due to crowded conditions at some meetings, the noise level of the current location and the inability of speakers to be heard by all attendees. Some alternate sites suggested are:

Police Annex Building on N 181st – there are no officials in the building after 5:00 so we would have to talk to the Police Chief about one of the CVIP personnel using their keycard to gain access of the building for meetings.

Salvation Offices on Stark and 194th

East Rose Fellowship on N 181st

Human Solutions Building on N 181st

It was suggested that if anyone had another thought after the meeting they could email using the NGNA email address. We told the members that we would use numerous methods to let them know if the location of meetings was changed before the meeting in April.

Linda Parashos gave updates on Land Use and offered to let the members know of Neighborhood Meetings held by developers on projects in our Neighborhood. The meeting attended by landowners in Fairview was brought up and the fact that those landowners were confrontational. Short notices will be posted to NGNA members through email about future hearings.

ELECTIONS

Kathye Partridge opened up the elections section by asking if anyone was interested in the position of President. There were questions about the amount of time that is required for each of the positions on the Board. Gelinda Chernault was asked if she would consider running for the office of President (she has been serving as interim president upon the resignation of President, Kathy Schwabe). She said she would like to be nominated for the position. It was moved and seconded that the membership vote for Gelinda Chernault for President of the NGNA. The vote was unanimous.

Gelinda took over the nomination process by asking if there were any neighbors who were interested in being nominated for Vice President. No one expressed any interest at this time.

Kathye Partridge resigned as Secretary/Treasurer due to time constraints. The neighbors in attendance were asked if anyone wanted to take on the role of Secretary/Treasurer. There was discussion and questions about the amount of time required for the position. Kathye offered to help whoever takes the position. No one offered to run for the office at this time.

Linda Parashos was asked if she would consider continuing as Land Use Chair. She said she would.

POST SCRIPT

After checking with Aaron Abrams, it was brought to our attention that according to the Administrative Procedures, each NA Board must have at least 3 members to function. With only two members, NGNA would need to be declared inactive. We have a very short time to get persons interested in the open positions of Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer, all another meeting to vote on those interested OR the North Gresham Neighborhood Association will be declared inactive and cease to exist. The result of this would be the loss of voting ability at the Coalition Meetings, no longer receiving land use information and the loss of grant funds for NNO.